## REMARKS

Claims 2, 3 and 5-8 are pending in the present application. As will be discussed below, claim 3 has been amended. No new matter has been added. Support for the amendment to claim 3 is provided by, for example, page 5 of the specification, line 4 from the bottom. Accordingly, entry of the present amendment is requested.

Claims 3, 5 and 7 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hinata in view of Khan, WO '380 and JP 2-058527.

Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

JP '527 discloses an optical disk substrate comprising an epoxy resin containing aromatic groups, as the main structural element, and is directed to improved moisture resistance. In contrast, in order to provide a transparent and heat resistant resin substrate according to the present invention, alicyclic epoxy resin is utilized for the substrate resin. JP '527 does not reach or suggest a liquid crystal cell substrate comprising alicyclic epoxy resin. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the present claimed invention is not rendered *prima facie* obvious by the cited references and withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: January 24, 2003

## APPENDIX

## VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

**Claim 3 is amended as follows:**

3. (Thrice Amended) A liquid crystal cell substrate comprising an epoxy resin substrate obtained by flow casting and having been formed from a liquid alicyclic epoxy resin and a solid alicyclic epoxy resin, and, closely adhered on the resin substrate, a gas barrier layer, a crosslinked resin layer and a polarizing layer, said polarizing layer comprising a coating layer, wherein the polarizing layer has a thickness of 5 $\mu$m or smaller.